

## 'IT'S JUST MY THING'



■ Hannah McEachern, 10, of Duxbury has been modeling and acting since she was 4. The Alden School fourth-grader said she's found modeling to be fun, "but I like the acting better."

LISA BUL/The Patriot Ledger

# A BUDDING STAR

Duxbury 10-year-old with a love for acting  
invited to L.A. to display her talent

By **KRISTEN WALSH**  
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**H** DUXBURY  
annah McEachern is  
dreaming about the  
future.

While other  
fourth-graders at the  
Alden School are looking forward  
to a summer at the beach, playing  
sports and spending time with  
friends, Hannah has a special trip  
planned.

Hannah, who began acting  
when she was 4, is one of 33  
young actors who have been  
invited to an artist showcase in  
Los Angeles this summer.

Only once before has someone  
as young as Hannah been invited.

While in California, Hannah,  
10, will meet with agents and  
network representatives and read  
a monologue at auditions.

Hannah's father, William  
McEachern is a teacher and coach  
at Weymouth High School. Her  
mother, Jennifer Miller-  
McEachern, is the gymnastics

coach at Massachusetts the  
Institute of Technology.

If the showcase goes well, the  
family might spend the entire  
summer in Los Angeles, and then  
travel back and forth from  
Duxbury if Hannah gets offers.

"You have to be willing to  
spend time there and be bi-  
coastal," Miller-McEachern said.  
"You don't have to live there to  
work there, and we take the  
opportunities as they come."

When Hannah was 4, her  
parents enrolled her in an acting  
improvisation class at the South  
Shore Conservatory.

An agency representative saw  
her perform and told the  
McEacherns that Hannah had  
amazing potential.

Since then, Hannah has taken  
acting and singing lessons. She  
has been represented by Model  
Club Inc. in Boston for a few  
years.

She has modeled for Hasbro,  
Keds, Sears, Macy's, Toys R Us  
and several other companies, and

she has done commercials for Six  
Flags, Girls' Authority and the  
National Oil Heat Research  
Alliance.

"I like the print work. It's fun,  
but I like the acting better,"  
Hannah said. "In print work, they  
don't hear my voice, they just see  
my smile. I'd rather them hear my  
voice."

In December, the McEacherns  
traveled to Connecticut for  
Hannah to shoot "The Bronx is  
Burning."

In the eight-part miniseries  
based on Jonathan Mahler's  
bestseller about the New York  
Yankees' 1977 season, Hannah  
plays a diehard Yankee fan who  
loves Reggie Jackson. The series  
will debut on ESPN in July.

"As she learns more about the  
business, the more excited she  
gets about it," Miller-McEachern  
said.

Acting is far from the only  
thing Hannah enjoys doing. She

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plays soccer, dances, sings, skis, ice skates and rides horses.

She said her Alden School classmates have been very nice, occasionally asking her questions.

"Lots of people understand that it's just my thing. Everybody has a thing, and acting is my thing," Hannah said.

She hopes to do motion pictures someday, and she puts Robin Williams and Will Ferrell at the top of her list of dream co-stars.

"Will Ferrell is so funny," Hannah said. "I just want to test how funny he is."

Comedy is Hannah's favorite part of acting, but she said she continues to hone her serious side for dramatic work.

"It's not my strongest point. . . . I like to make people laugh."

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Hannah McEachern has a role in "The Bronx Is Burning," which will be shown on ESPN this summer.